



USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Voluntary Report - public distribution

Date: 1/24/2003

GAIN Report Number: MX3013

Mexico

Poultry and Products

Poultry Agreements on Newcastle Disease to Export to Mexico

2003

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Report Highlights:

SAGARPA has agreed to lift the total ban on poultry and poultry products due to the Exotic Newcastle Disease concerns, and these products are eligible to be exported to Mexico under certain conditions, as of January 21, 2003.

Includes PSD Changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Mexico [MX1], [MX]

Mexico's Secretariat of Agriculture (SAGARPA) announced on January 10, 2003, that it had banned all imports of U.S. poultry products (except for cooked meat) because of an outbreak of Newcastle Disease (END) in California, but would allow shipments to enter through January 17, 2003. USDA sent a technical team from the Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service to Mexico on January 14, 2003, to try and address SAGARPA's concerns and elucidate USDA's Newcastle control procedures. After nearly 20 hours of meetings over four days, SAGARPA agreed to temporarily regionalize the ban. Therefore, as a temporary measure, and until the risk analysis to evaluate the END situation in the U.S. is completed, poultry will be allowed entry under the following terms:

- 1) As of January 21, 2003, the United States is eligible to export live poultry, hatching eggs, table eggs, SPF eggs, fresh poultry meat, chilled or frozen poultry meat, raw poultry meat for further thermal processing, fresh, green and salted poultry hides and leathers originating in the United States, except from the states of California, Nevada, Oregon, Idaho, Utah and Arizona.
- 2) Imports of live poultry, hatching eggs, table eggs, SPF eggs, fresh poultry meat, chilled or frozen poultry meat, raw poultry meat for further thermal processing, fresh, green and salted poultry hides and leathers, originating in the U.S., can only be shipped into Mexico through the ports of
Cd. Reynosa, Tamaulipas
Cd. Juarez, Chihuahua
Nogales, Sonora
Nuevo Laredo, Tamaulipas, and
Colombia, Nuevo Leon.
- 3) It is still prohibited to import poultry (except for fully cooked poultry meat) from Texas, Maine, Virginia, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, West Virginia, and California due to the earlier detection of Avian Influenza in these states.
- 4) It is prohibited to import poultry meat, raw poultry meat for further thermal processing and poultry carcasses if these products were stored in cold storages in the states of California, Nevada, Oregon, Idaho, Utah and Arizona.
- 5) Poultry meat destined exclusively for the northern border line can be shipped through the traditional entry points that were operating regularly before the present restrictions. *(NOTE: The Office of Agricultural Affairs checked with SAGARPA's office of border inspection which indicated that poultry meat (other than fully cooked which is not subject to the END or AI requirements) destined for the northern border line (see definition below) may cross through the ports of Mexicali, Tijuana, and San Luis Rio Colorado in California provided the container is sealed and complies with all requirements pertaining to END and AI. The seals must be broken by Customs authorities before entering Mexico if the shipments cross through California. Shipments for the border line that cross from other states may cross at any point.)* For the southern border region products can only be shipped through Puerto Morelos (for Cancun). For both cases, the supervision of an authorized verifying Veterinarian designated by SAGARPA is required.
- 6) Imports of raw poultry meat for further thermal processing from Texas, Maine, Virginia, Connecticut, Pennsylvania, North Carolina, West Virginia, and other states is allowed, except from California, Nevada, Oregon, Idaho, Utah and Arizona.
- 7) As usual, all products must follow the SAGARPA requirements contained in the Zoosanitary Requirements Sheet (Hoja de Requisitos Zoosanitarios).

SAGARPA still requires the following statement concerning Newcastle Disease on U.S. health certificates.

"The entire consignment of meat comes from birds which have been kept in an establishment free from Velogenic Newcastle disease and not situated in a Velogenic Newcastle disease infected zone and which have been slaughtered in an approved abattoir not situated in a Velogenic Newcastle disease infected zone and have been subjected to antemortem and postmortem inspections for Velogenic Newcastle disease with favorable results."

Cooked products need to follow the Zoosanitary Requirements as usual and are subject to *Listeria monocytogenes* testing (MX2168) for export to Mexico. Cooked products are not under the previous list of terms, however, exporters are cautioned to verify eligibility with importers.

Background: The following GAIN reports contain related information on the END issue:

Report #	Name	Date
MX3002	GOM Establishes New Import Requirements for END and Poultry Meat for Further Processing	01/06/2003
MX3007	Poultry Banned due to END	01/13/2003

Definition: The northern border line is defined as -- The Mexican territory between the international line with the United States and a 20 km parallel line from the International limit, including a portion of the state of Sonora and the Gulf of Mexico, and the municipality of Cananea, Sonora.

Disclaimer: In the event of a discrepancy or discrepancies in the English translation of the SAGARPA letter, the original SAGARPA letter shall prevail.

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Internet Connections

FAS Mexico Web Site: We are available at <http://www.atomexico.gob.mx> or visit our headquarter's home page at <http://www.fas.usda.gov> for a complete selection of FAS' worldwide agricultural reporting.

Useful Mexican Web Sites: Mexico's equivalent of the Department of Agriculture (SAGARPA) can be found at www.sagar.gob.mx and Mexico's equivalent of the Department of Commerce (SE) can be found at www.se.gob.mx. These web sites are mentioned for the readers' convenience but USDA does NOT in any way endorse, guarantee the accuracy of, or necessarily concur with the information contained on the mentioned sites.